

GEORGE W. YORK, Editor.

# AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

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## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES

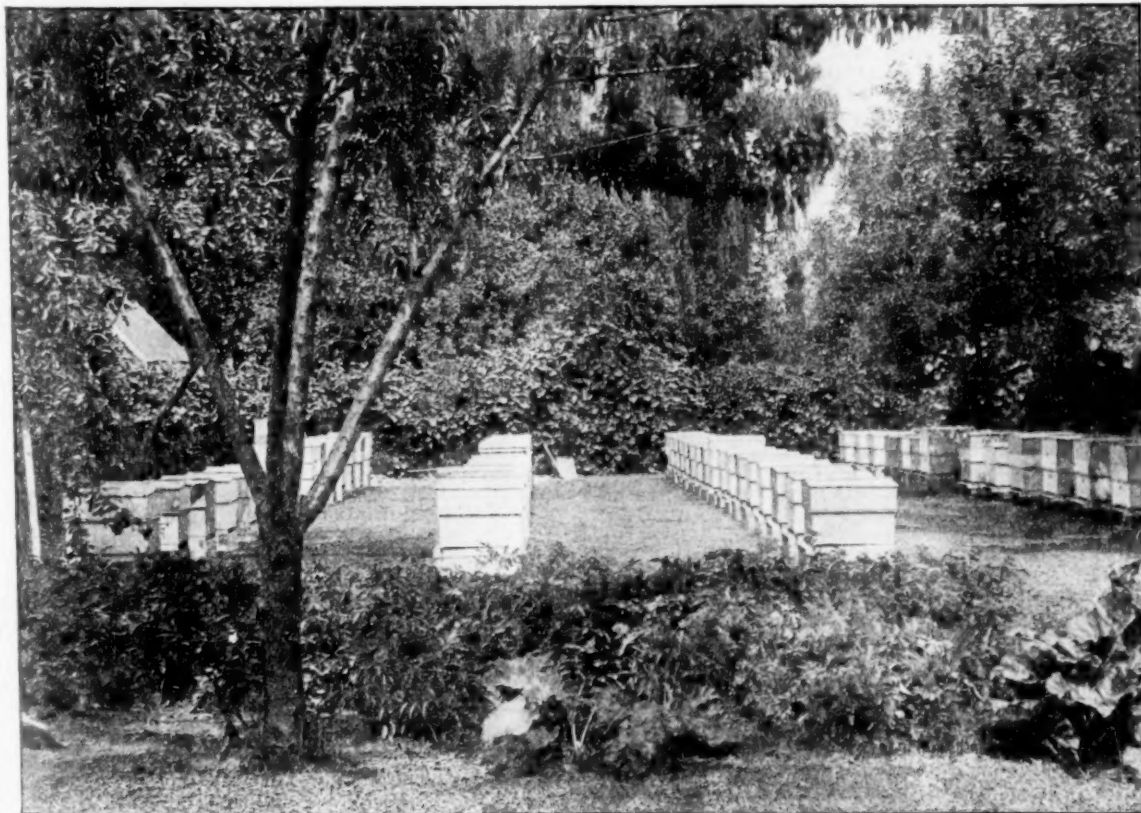
### Apiary of Mr. F. G. Herman, of Bergen Co., N. J.

EDITOR YORK:—This cozy little apiary is located within the limits of a city. There are 60 hives in four rows, all of them full of bees at present, but not full of honey. I am

not out of fashion in this year of poor crops. The hives are what is called "light chaff hives;" they are 21 inches apart in the rows.

The apiary is covered with tan bark, which keeps all weeds and grass from growing, and absorbs all the rain, and is perfectly dry one hour after the sun shines upon it.

The fence around the apiary is a wire one, six feet high, and is covered with honey-suckles and grape-vines. When looking at the picture imagine you are facing westward—those tall trees in the background shade the apiary after 3 p.m. which is a pleasant feature to me, as it makes it more comfortable to work among the bees. You will notice in the middle isle a home-made chair; there is where I spend many a pleasant hour, and the bees hum me to sleep. I intended to be in the picture, but while I was getting



Apiary of Mr. F. G. Herman, of Bergen Co., N. J.

things ready for another picture, the photographer snapt this one.

The four years preceding this year I averaged 100 pounds of honey per colony, spring count; but this year it has dropt to about 35 pounds.

Bee-keeping is only a side-issue with me, my daily vocation being "wool finishing;" notwithstanding, with the help of a bicycle I can be my own salesman and market my own crop, and occasionally I have to buy more to tide me over.

F. G. HERMAN.

Bergen Co., N. J.



### Queen-Excluders—Is their Use Advisable?

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

A CORRESPONDENT writes me that a bee-friend of his thinks there is no need of using queen-excluders over the whole top of the hive under the surplus arrangement, but just under the front and back end, putting a thin board under the center, and thus save laying out so much money on queen-excluders. And from what he further writes I judge that he fears that the bees will not work as well over the board as they would were the whole top of the hive covered with the queen-excluding metal. He closes his letter by saying, "Won't you tell us thru the columns of the American Bee Journal what you think in the matter?"

Well, I not only endorse those "fears" of the correspondent, but had he said he knew that bees would not work over the board as well as they would without it, I should have endorsed it equally quick. To be sure, I have known bees to go clear around division-boards and up into the cap of the hive, doing quite a business in this way building comb and storing honey there, but from close observation I am satisfied that the more perfect the connection between the brood department and the surplus arrangement the more readily the bees start to work, and the quicker the bees start in the sections the better the results in the number of pounds of honey.

But I think I hear some one say, "If this is so, why do you recommend excluders at all, for the connection between the two departments cannot be as perfect with excluders as without them?" Very probably this is correct, but in reply I would say that it is not the largest number of pounds of honey that is always the most profitable to the apiarist; for if so, why not do as our fathers used to, hive our bees in barrels? Elisha Gallup once said that bees would store as much honey in a barrel or nail-keg as in any of the modern hives, and I have yet to hear any one dispute the assertion. Then why not do it?

Ah! but honey stored in this way is not in marketable shape. And honey stored without queen-excluders, especially where very shallow frames are used, is not always in marketable shape, for thousands of sections have been spoiled for market by having brood in them where excluders were not used. I contend that more honey in *marketable shape* can be secured by the use of separators and excluders than can be without them; and this is just the reason why I use them.

Our correspondent hints that the reason for not using the excluding metal, but a board over the center of the brood-nest, is that the field-bees when returning with their loads of honey do not go up thru the center of the hive, but at the ends. I think this a mistake, for certainly the most of the hives of our fathers allowed them to go up nowhere else, and they secured much surplus in that way, my father taking as much as 75 pounds of comb honey from a single new swarm with a two-inch hole bored in the center of the top of the hive leading to the surplus department as the only means of communication between the two.

Then our correspondent asks further: "If the foregoing is right, does this theory not hold good concerning excluders that stand vertical? I am using large frames, and have much of my honey stored at the sides. Now when the bees march from the entrance toward the excluders do they not move along at the bottom of the hive? and do they not therefore go thru the lower rows of zinc? If I am right in this, how many rows would be needed before I used a thin board from them to the top of the hive?"

It is evident that my correspondent, as well as his bee-friend, is laboring under the delusion so often taught in the past, that the bee which gathers a load from the field must of necessity deposit that load in the surplus receptacles. For this reason outside entrances were made at the top of the hive, to be opened when the harvest came, so the bees

could go direct from the fields to the boxes, thus saving them that much of travel and time, for it was too bad to have them traveling and being jostled and rubbed against all the way from the lower entrance up thru the crowded hive in the dark, when they could just as well go right from the field by daylight to the combs where they were to store the honey.

However nice and practical this appeared, the coming of the Italian bee virtually stopt up this upper entrance, for it was soon found that when there were only black bees going in and out at the entrance, just before the Italians commenced to work in the fields, there were very few if any black bees in the sections; and a look thru the glass showed these black laborers giving up their loads of honey to the young Italians upon their return from the fields, allowing these nimble-footed young ones to run up-stairs with the honey, taking the shortest and quickest way they could, whether at the top or bottom, front or back end, or right straight up thru the center.

Moreover, it was ascertained that, unless there was a very large yield of honey, these young ones held this honey in their honey-sacs, or deposited it in the brood-combs right among the brood, wherever an empty cell was found, till it was sufficiently ripened to be stored in the sections or placed permanently in the combs.

It is about time that the average bee-keeper comes to the conclusion that bees have no paths staked out, nor lawns with "Keep Off the Grass" notices posted up so as to guide them in certain directions in which they should go with their loads of pollen and nectar. The natural instinct of the bees is to cluster with and about the brood, and deposit their honey above and around it, and the more they are allowed to conform to this instinct the better will be the results, only we must guide them enough so that their product will be in the most salable form when brought to a completion.

Onondaga Co., N. Y.



### Description of a Wisconsin Bee-Cellar.

BY WM. M. BARNES.

MY cellar for wintering bees is 16x20 feet, and 6½ feet deep. It has a stone wall one foot thick and 3 feet high, then from where the wall rests the cellar is dug out 3½ feet deep in yellow clay, and is smaller all around by one foot than the inside of the wall, thus leaving an offset of one foot all around the cellar. The sides of the cellar are left sloping, so that there is no danger of the dirt caving off.

There are two outside doors made of match pine, being two thicknesses of lumber, with a parting strip of oak one inch thick all around the doors and between the two thicknesses of lumber, thus making a dead-air space in the doors. One door shuts even with the inside of the wall, and swings into the cellar, and the other door swings outward, and is 3 feet from the inside door. The wall at the doors extends down as far as the bottom of the cellar. The opening at the top of the doors and between them is covered with a trap-door, which is covered with galvanized iron. This trap-door can be raised when the other doors are closed, and secured, and the space packed full of straw or planer-shavings, if necessary.

From the outside door there is an entrance-way dug, and in this there is a ventilator 30 feet long, 8x10 inches inside measure, made of 2-inch oak plank. The outside end is wide open: the inside end extending inside of the cellar 3 feet, and the opening is closed with a register.

The upward ventilation is secured by a common 6-inch stove-pipe, the lower end coming down within 4 feet of the bottom of the cellar, the upper end extending thru the roof of the building used for a shop over the cellar, making the pipe 22 feet long, thus causing plenty of draft.

I now have the wall outside graded with dirt to the top of the wall, then 10 inches of old sawdust as banking around the building.

I moved my bees into this cellar Nov. 28, 1898, and kept a thermometer there. Up to Dec. 14 I found that the temperature was 41 degrees above zero—a little too cool, still the bees were quiet, and I thought the temperature might rise as the cellar dried out, as it was quite new. I had 96 colonies in the cellar, and could have put in 50 more without crowding.

I wish the older ones in the bee-business would show me my errors, and where my cellar may fail.

Richland Co., Wis.



## Suggestions on Fall Work in the Apiary.

BY F. A. SNELL.

WITH favorable weather a fall crop of honey is generally secured in most sections of our country. With us, the fall honey crop varies much, some years we have a good one, others only a moderate or light crop. The apiarist should make due preparation for a fair honey-flow, and if it comes he is in shape to reap the harvest. This flow varies as to time of opening, some years the bees will, with us, begin storing some the latter part of August.

I aim to have a lot of cases in readiness to put on the hives by the 15th of the month. The unfinished boxes left over from the summer are all used, either in filling, or partially, each case. In using or about half filling with the built combs from summer, the remaining space is filled with boxes having foundation in each, and the latter are placed at each side of the cases. A few cases should be at first placed on the stronger colonies, and these watch to see if honey is yet abundant enough for storing surplus, which can be readily seen thru the observation glass. If the yield is sufficient, the combs will be drawn or built out, and honey stored in them. The comb foundation in the side boxes will be built out, and the central combs given such will be pushed toward completion.

I seldom at this time of year give any colony over two cases at one time. When the honey-flow is moderate, one surplus case will suffice. The amount of room given, or rather needed, can be determined by experience, and must be governed by the honey-yield at the time. As the cases are completed they should be removed from the hives so the capping will not be darkened by the bees traveling over them, or coating with propolis or darker wax. The bees should be given new cases if needed, and such all ready to put on should be made ready in advance.

As the fall flow draws to a close, the surplus-room should not at this time be more than one case, for at the close of the summer flow it is desirable to get all the complete combs we can for sale or use.

As the honey in the fields becomes less, the bees are inclined to rob, and no honey should be left exposed, for this reason.

At the close of the fall yield all boxes should be removed from the hives and stored in the honey-room. The fall honey should be kept entirely separate from that secured in summer, and racked up the same.

The next work of most importance to be done is the sorting and crating of the honey. Two grades of fall honey are generally harvested, and should be crated as such, as a rule. After the honey is all crated it should be marketed as rapidly as one can do so. The honey not sold by Oct. 10 would better be kept warm by artificial heat, so it will not assimilate moisture.

The partially-filled combs should be emptied of honey by means of the honey-extractor, and all boxes and supers cleaned of propolis. The supers should be filled with boxes loosely so bees can pass between them, and on warm days placed out, so that all honey may be gleaned by the bees. Not a drop should remain in the combs. After all have been thus cleaned, they should be stored for winter and next season's use.

All colonies short of honey should be looked after early in September, and supplied with enough honey to last until spring; nuclei united or used with queenless colonies early in the fall. This kind of work should at all times be done early, if possible.

Where a part of the apiary is run for extracted honey it should also be removed from the hives at the close of the honey-flow, and thrown from the combs, and the supers stored away for the season.

Not later than Oct. 1 every colony should be in good shape for winter. The cappings secured from extracting after draining should be soaked and rinsed in water, and the latter put into a barrel to be made into vinegar. The cappings should be made into wax or put away until next summer, if to be made into wax by the solar extractor.

The apiarist who produces considerable honey should see that his home market is at all times well supplied with honey, when he is able to do it. He should also seek customers in all directions, and open up new points for sales of his honey. This requires quite a good deal of time, and is really a part of his fall work. The fall months, like those of summer, are busy ones for the extensive bee-keeper.

The bees to be wintered out-of-doors should be packed during the latter part of October or early in November. The bees to be wintered in the cellar should be made ready to place there early in November, so that when rough weather

comes the bees may be promptly put in. It is very desirable that the bees have a good flight just before their removal to the cellar, and as soon as the weather is cooler place them in for winter. This done, and the honey mostly disposed of, the season's work is about completed.

The author, teacher, and most successful honey-producer of his day—Moses Quinby—said, "Bee-keeping means work," and this is as much a fact to-day as when uttered many years ago by Mr. Quinby. No apiarist can do much at the business who will not work earnestly and faithfully. We must work to win.

Carroll Co., Ill.

## CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

### Report of the Proceedings of the 30th Annual Convention of the United States Bee-keepers' Association, Held at Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 5, 6 and 7, 1899.

BY DR. A. B. MASON, SEC.

[Continued from page 598.]

The following paper by Mr. W. W. Somerford, at present from Texas, was read next:

### Possibilities and Difficulties of Bee-Keeping in Cuba and Porto Rico, and the Effect of Our New Relations With these Islands on Our Honey Market.

Possibilities and difficulties—the subjects assigned myself and Mr. Craycraft to discuss—are subjects that we both have had experience in, especially the difficulties. The main one encountered so far is a very serious difficulty, one that but few of Cuba's modern bee-keepers have escaped. So plentiful and so scattered is that terrible difficulty that we have nearly all had a sight and a whiff of it. It is foul brood, scattered broadcast over the land, Cuba's fair and fertile land, "the bee-keepers' paradise," except for foul brood.

The disease is one that some writers seem to think amounts to but little, yet I have known over \$100,000 worth of bees to dwindle out of existence from its ravages in Havana Province alone; and I still know of hundreds of colonies on the same road to sure and certain death, as none so far have escaped after contamination; and the afflicted ones have been sold and hauled hither and thither until the question is with the knowing ones, Where can I locate and be safe and secure? Where, oh, where? The wisest bee-keeper on the island of Cuba would not dare to answer the question with any certainty or assurance, for, if he did, he might "get left" as the most of us have. Yes, left without bees, with only infected hives and experience as future capital—and books (foul brood books) that tell all about how it can be cured so easily in the hands of the careful and studious; but, then, I have known men of culture, educated in the languages, graduates of our best universities, *all to fail*. Even common, practical men fail; men who have given the better part of their lives to bee-keeping fail. Fail when it comes to curing foul brood, where there is eternal sunshine and summer and big apiaries. All have failed so far in Cuba to cure the disease; and I consider it the only great "difficulty" that a bee-keeper has to contend with, or may have to encounter.

Mr. Craycraft wrote me a few days ago that the leading bee-keepers of the island had a move on foot, and were whooping it up, to establish a foul brood law, with an inspector to inspect and condemn all infected apiaries. The "leading bee-keepers," I will add, that are in the move, are the ones that foul brood has led out of the business. So the law, if past, is sure to be effectual, as I understand one of their number is to be inspector, and will pass the death sentence where the disease is found. Then, Mr. Craycraft says, a bee-keeper can keep bees with a certainty of success, but not until then.

As to possibilities, they are great when it comes to bee-keeping and honey-producing in Cuba. It will take time to tell the story as to what can be accomplished. I knew a bee-keeper to claim 40,000 pounds of fine white honey from 100

colonies in a single season, and I am sure better reports will come in the future under our new relations, for Cuba is surely a honey country. I, myself, took, in 90 days, from an even 100 colonies, over 2,000 gallons of the finest honey I have ever seen. But where is that 100 colonies now? And still another 150 that I used to have in Cuba? All dead. Yes, dead. Doctored to death with foul-brood cures—cures that would not cure in Cuba. But I will try it again. I will embark for Cuba in September, as big apiaries under sheds are fascinating to me—until contaminated with Cuba's contagious "difficulty," foul brood, or "bacillus alvei," as Prof. Cheshire, England's great scientist, called it.

As to Porto Rico, I have not been there yet, but my friends who have, say it is no such a honey country as Cuba; but, of course, it may be better; I do not know.

"The effect of our new relations with these islands on our honey market"—they will have but little, if any, effect for years to come, and if they do it will be to create a market for fine honey, in many places where none is produced, and but little consumed at present, as is the case in many parts of the South, where the quality of honey is bad, and the crop uncertain, and consumption amounts to nothing. In such places thousands of tons of Cuba's fine honey could find a market. But for European buyers, it is not likely that much honey will come into our American markets from Cuba, as her market is already established in Europe, and has been for more than a century.

W. W. SOMERFORD.

The above paper was then discussed as follows:

Mr. Selser—I notice that the people who talk about the market do so to mock us.

Harry S. Howe—I am going to be down there soon, and shall learn what there is to learn.

S. A. Niver—I, too, want to take issue with Mr. Selser. I have had little experience, and I have compared the honeydew with good honey. Come to York State and see how we do things there.

Dr. Miller—Mr. Selser is nowhere when New York gets after him.

The next paper was read by Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, of Michigan, on

### Bee-Keeping as a Profession.

The time was when many industries were represented in one family. Flax and wool were grown, spun and worked up into cloth and made into clothing. Cows were kept, and cheese as well as butter made for home use. Poultry and a few colonies of bees added to the comforts of the household. But there is no need of going into detail; every one knows how people lived 100 years ago. Cheap and rapid transportation has encouraged the invention of machinery, the building of factories, and the classification of labor. This has brought about *specialty*. No one disputes that this condition of things is better; by it our comforts are more than trebled.

Some industries branched out as specialties much sooner than others. Bee-keeping was among the later ones. At last, however, it has been recognized as an industry of itself. How does it compare with other professions? What are its advantages and disadvantages? Can it be depended upon as a means of livelihood? These are questions that have come to all of us, and will continue to come to all who enter our ranks.

I believe it is well understood that bee-keeping is not an occupation in which we can easily become wealthy. In the very nature of things it cannot be otherwise. Like the keeping of poultry, the raising of small fruits, gardening, and other minor branches of agriculture, the keeping of bees in localities adapted to the business can be depended upon to furnish their owner a comfortable living; but such fortunes as are amassed in merchandising and manufacturing can never be hoped for by the bee-keeper.

Fortunately, however, the perfection of a man's happiness bears but little relation to the size of his fortune. Many a man with the hum of bees over his head, finds happiness sweeter and deeper than ever comes to the merchant prince with his cares and his thousands. Bee-keeping is an ennobling pursuit. It keeps a man close to Nature's heart. It brings out the best that is in him. But can it be depended upon, year after year, as a means of supporting one's family? In some localities it can; in others it cannot. Where there is only one source of honey, and that an unreliable one, a man learns, sooner or later, that he cannot depend upon bees alone.

If a man is to adopt bee-keeping as a profession he must choose a location possessing at least one unfailing

source of honey, or else several sources, some one or more of which will be quite likely to furnish a crop.

Many who attempt bee-keeping as a specialty, are lacking in business methods. They attempt too many make-shifts in the way of hives, implements, buildings, and the like. To become a successful professional bee-keeper a man must first find a proper locality, as I have just explained, then he must secure the best stock procurable, put up suitable buildings, wintering cellars, if necessary; have the best of hives and implements, and keep a large number of colonies. I think many fail in this point. They keep only bees enough to bring in an income during a good year, or, possibly in an average year, and when one poor year follows another, two or three times in succession, want stares them in the face. Keep bees enough so that when there is a good year or two, enough money may be made to tide over the poor seasons that are sure to come. The very fact that the bees are scattered about in out-apiaries, several miles apart, adds to the certainty of a crop; as one locality often yields a fair crop while another a few miles away yields nothing.

With a man adapted to the business, a suitable locality, and the adoption of sound business methods, bee-keeping will compare favorably with other rural pursuits.

Believing that the mission of a paper is best fulfilled when it introduces the subject, rather than exhausts it, I bring mine to a close.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Mr. Doolittle—I don't like to see time run to waste, neither do I want to oppose anything that so intelligent a brain as Mr. Hutchinson's has brought forth. He told us how agriculture, in many branches, has ceased, and the masses are not happier. Mr. Hutchinson, I want to say this, and enforce it by telling a story. One of those long-faced brethren was riding one day, and came across a young man walking, and asked him to ride. Presently they entered a deep wood; he thought he was called upon to speak to the young man about his soul, so he asked him the question, "Are you prepared to die?" and the young man jumped out and ran away. Now, I want to say to you, that anything that kills our happiness is wrong.

Mr. Hutchinson—What is your point, Mr. Doolittle?

Mr. Doolittle—The point is, that no people are happier than when working for a home. And this speculation that our people have gone into has spoiled our homes. A hungry dog cannot fight. You may run up a flag, but you cannot force people to respect it.

Mr. Hutchinson—When I first went to my present home, we kept a cow, had a garden, etc., but the work in the garden came at the same time as the work in the apiary, so I laid by the cow and the garden.

Dr. Mason—Mr. Doolittle says a poor, hungry dog can't fight, so he must mean that the dog that is well fed and sleek can fight the best. Now, that is all right, and I agree with him. (Several—"If not too fat.") But what makes that dog poor? Is it not his own fault? In our locality (and you know localities differ), there are too many who have not the backbone, or the principle, to make use of the means at their command, to make home happy, and blame the more fortunate for their success.

W. E. Flower—This reminds me of a story of an Irishman. He and his wife quarreled. She said to him, "Look at the dog and cat. Did you ever see anything more peaceable than that?" The husband paused and looked at the creatures, then said, "Just tie them together tight, and, faith, I think then they'll fight." Taxes are so high I do not want a home. If I am going to spend all my income for taxes, I am better off without a home.

Dr. Miller—The question is a serious one. If a young man should ask me to-day if bee-keeping is a profession that pays, I would not dare to say it is as safe as a profession as it was 20 or 40 years ago. I think Mr. Hutchinson was very wise in putting it that way, that it is not a matter of dollars and cents. Perhaps I may rest and strengthen up while following this profession; I am a bee-keeper, and I find time to go fishing. We get our pleasure as we go along in our occupation. I am enjoying my bee-keeping. That is my vocation, and I believe I can enjoy it as a profession.

Rev. E. T. Abbott—You have gotten on my hobby. This talk about bee-keeping as a specialty all sounds very well, but I don't think there is a man in the room that makes his living out of bee-keeping. There is something else combined with it.

Mr. Doolittle—I do.

Rev. Abbott—Where is your farm?

Mr. Doolittle—Bees bought it.



Mr. Abbott—Do you have no income from the farm? Bee-keeping has only one mission in the United States, and that is to make the home happier and better. Mr. Hutchinson and I have to sell papers, and it is a fact that bee-keeping will not succeed as a profession in half a dozen States. But for broken down doctors, and preachers that never could preach, it is a splendid thing. When we talk about a living, we would better keep still.

Mr. Doolittle—You will excuse a little personal story. I was brought up a farmer. My father thought so much of me that he wanted to keep me with him. If there is any young man present, let me say to you, don't be fool enough to do it. I bought my father off. I earned \$600 working out, for I saw that I could barely make a living from the farm. I bought some bee-papers; I was up in my loft and I overheard father talking to a neighbor, and father said, "I hoped Gilbert would be a farmer. I have even prayed that he would fail in bee-keeping." The bees have bought everything that I have. They bought my home, and Mr. Abbott cannot drop it out, for it is there.

An Attendant—I do not own a foot of land, but I have some bees. The gentleman said that the place to keep bees is on the farm.

Mr. Doolittle—There are some great facts before us, and it is well to understand them. In 1877, as a friend of mine and I went to New York with some honey I told him that we were getting some cheap rides at six cents per mile. As we went to Canada afterward, I said, cheap riding at two cents per mile. But how did you get your money? With honey at 9½ cents per pound; and I measured that I was paying six cents per mile in Canada, and I figured that I was paying nine cents per mile in 1877. The little a man got 20 years ago is two-thirds less now.

Dr. Miller—I want to ask you, Mr. Doolittle, if your bees have averaged as much in the last 10 years as in other years?

Mr. Doolittle—Yes. In the first year of my bee-keeping life I secured 66½ pounds of honey per colony. I don't know as I shall ever see it again. This year was a poor year, but my bees averaged 135 pounds per colony.

After a song by Mr. Haenle, which was encored, the convention adjourned until 9 a.m. the next day, Sept. 6.

[Continued next week.]



## Report of the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Convention, Held at Milano, July 20-21, 1899.

BY LOUIS SCHOLL, SEC.

[Continued from page 615.]

### FIRST DAY—EVENING SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m., and on motion O. P. Hyde was appointed a committee on program for the next meeting.

#### BEST RACE OF BEES.

"What is the best race of bees for each and every bee-keeper to use for all purposes?"

A. C. Brown gave his experience with Italians and hybrids. The Holy-Land bees he found to be very gentle instead of being stingers. The queens filled the frames full of brood, and they gathered large crops of honey. He prefers the Holy-Lands, if they are like those he had.

B. A. Guess prefers Italians, as they have done well with him.

Mr. Raven started with blacks, then hybridized, and prefers them.

Mr. Atchley says that for all purposes the Italians; for many purposes, the Holy-Lands; for many things, others. He has handled Italians for 25 years, and prefers them for all purposes.

O. P. Hyde had experience with blacks and Italians, which have some features he does not like. The Holy-Lands are better, and don't fill the brood-nest with honey like Italians, which crowd out the queen. Holy-Lands work better in supers. For all purposes he prefers the Italians.

J. B. Salyer—Pure Italians—goldens.  
Jno. Pharr says a third cross between golden and Holy-Land is the best honey-gatherer in this country.

G. F. Davidson finds the goldens most beautiful, both for pleasure and business. He wants no hybrids and blacks, and has had no experience with Holy-Land and Carniolan bees.

Judge Terral defended the old three-banded Italian for all around purposes. For gentleness they are the best bees,

and if they do crowd out the queen in the brood-chamber it is all the bee-keeper's fault for not attending to his business to extract from the brood-chamber to provide room. Hybrids follow him around all day; also the Carniolans, and they are the worst to rob. He has had trouble with neighbors on account of their robbing. Carniolans are no better than the common German, and worse to sting. He can't handle them without smoking and smoking them. The Holy-Lands are worse than all, and fight him every time he goes into the yard. Then his bee-yard grew up in grass, weeds and horsemint, several feet high, and every time he went into the yard it went *zzip, zzip*, and there would be a big rattlesnake right before him. "Yes, sir! give me the straight, old three-banded Italian. It's the best all around bee for America."

Pres. Jones asked the Judge how much experience he had with Carniolans.

The Judge somewhat hesitatingly said that it was a long time ago, and he believed that they might have been Carniolans.

H. H. Hyde said there is a difference between golden Italians and Holy-Lands. He likes a direct cross between a Holy-Land queen and a golden drone for honey-gatherers.

F. L. Aten strongly defended the hybrids; as he is not keeping bees for pleasure he has to depend upon them. Hybrids hunt honey all the time, while Italians lie around doing nothing. The Holy-Lands are not so good. Hybrids are the all-purpose bee, and build nicer combs than any other bees.

Mr. Atchley said that really we were not discussing the right subject. When moving bees lately he placed Holy-Land, Italian, golden, Carniolan, and other colonies about in one yard, and at the end of the honey season the Holy-Lands had about 25 pounds more honey to the colony. The Holy-Lands are the bee for quick work and storing honey. But for all purposes and everybody he recommends the three-banded Italians.

Pres. Jones said it was a hard thing to answer this question. The three-banded Italians are good. Some prefer hybrids, and he thinks he would like a hybrid himself. Carniolans and Italians are the most gentle, and also good in other qualities.

Messrs. Madeley, Guess and others gave their experience with hybrids, while others did not know.

#### FOUNDATION IN THE BROOD-CHAMBER.

"Shall we use foundation in the brood-chamber, and how much?"

H. H. Hyde and Mr. Salyer said full sheets all the time. Under all conditions the best results are with full sheets.

Judge Terral—Full sheets during the honey flow; slow flow not.

Mr. Aten said full sheets when he uses it.

Mr. Atchley says it is money thrown away during a slow flow; in a fast flow he wants full sheets. It pays to use full sheets for swarms during a fast flow, as they need storage-room. They will build two-thirds drone-comb with an old queen without full sheets.

Mr. Davidson uses full sheets during a fast flow to prevent large quantities of drone-comb; no advantages of full sheets in sections; but best when wiring frames.

O. P. Hyde advocates full sheets for both brood-frames and sections; also for both fast and slow flow, and wired frames. Bees build all worker-comb with full sheets.

Pres. Jones said that in some times and some instances full sheets are perfectly useless; in other instances bees built out full sheets during the slowest flow. He never uses full sheets for swarms when run for comb honey, as bees store all the honey below, which he wants in the sections above. Therefore, he uses starters in the brood-frames of swarms; only circumstances differ.

The convention then adjourned till 8 a.m. the next day.

#### SECOND DAY—FORENOON SESSION.

The convention was again called to order at 8 a.m., and the following question taken up:

#### USING FOUNDATION IN THE SECTION.

"Shall we use starters or full sheets of foundation in sections?"

Mr. Salyer—Yes.

F. J. R. Davenport—It depends upon circumstances.

Mr. Guess uses full sheets or none. No complaints from customers.

Mr. Atchley—No.

A. C. Brown—Full sheets sometimes. Bait sections are best to get bees up into the supers.

## FASTENING FOUNDATION IN SECTIONS.

"Best method of fastening foundation in sections."

Pres. Jones spoke on the subject. He told about a fastener he made himself, which was better than the Daisy, as the latter did not do neat work; while the heating plate of his machine slants to the front, causing the melted wax to run into the section, that of the Daisy causes the wax to run to the back, over the lamp and everything. He has objections to those already on the market.

Mr. Scholl was requested to show the workings of his foundation fastener, which was generally endorsed.

## GETTING SECTIONS WELL FILLED.

"How can we get section honey well filled all around?"

Mr. Scholl—Use the Hyde-Scholl separators, and see.

H. H. Hyde, E. J. Atchley and others advised using the Hyde-Scholl separators and full sheets of foundation.

O. P. Hyde—There are four things necessary: 1st, an overflowing colony of bees; 2nd, a good honey-flow; 3rd, full sheets of foundation; 4th, Hyde-Scholl separator.

## BEE-PARALYSIS.

"Bee-paralysis; can it be cured? If so, how?"

Messrs. Davenport, Atchley, the Hydys and others said they didn't know.

Mr. Brown's experience was given. He described the bees with the disease. They lookt sleek and shiny, and swelled up; trembled all over, and were generally carried out by their comrades; used salt and water in barrels where bees got to it—about one tablespoonful of salt to a bucket of water. The first year he did not see any difference, but the second year it disappeared. He did not know exactly whether this cured it, or whether it was something else.

Mr. Davidson had but little experience with it. Diseased bees are sleek and shiny. Don't mistake robber-bees for them, as the diseased bees are swelled up, and tremble; otherwise they look shiny, like robbers.

Mr. Davenport gave his father's experience. Remedy: One-half honey and one-half sugar, boil and strain. Feed to the bees after night. The disease disappeared.

Pres. Jones had several cases, and tried the following solution, applied with an atomizer; thoroly saturated all parts of the hive and combs, and the third day the bees started to work again and gathered a good crop:

Sulpho calcine  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce, salt 2 ounces, dissolved in one pint of water; add one pound of extracted honey. Mix thoroly and apply. Remove the diseased colony a few feet, put a new clean hive in its place, and put the combs back into it.

The next year he weakened the solution, and on the fifth day there were still signs of paralysis. After a week it was gone, and the bees commenced work.

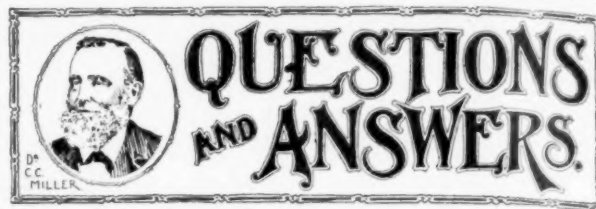
Mr. Brown tried some experiments to see how contagious it was. He hived swarms with colonies having the disease after the bees all hatcht, and there was no more paralysis after that.

Mr. Atchley said that he, long ago, with Dr. Howard, made several microscopic observations, and found that certain food taken by the bees, without having cleansing flights, caused them to get a fever, which they then called "bee-fever."

[Concluded next week.]

**York's Honey Almanac** is a neat little 32-page pamphlet especially gotten up with a view to create a demand for honey among should-be consumers. Aside from the Almanac pages, the forepart of the pamphlet was written by Dr. C. C. Miller, and is devoted to general information concerning honey. The latter part consists of recipes for use in cooking and as a medicine. It will be found to be a very effective helper in working up a home market for honey. We furnish them, postpaid, at these prices: A sample for a stamp; 25 copies for 40 cents; 50 for 70 cents; 100 for \$1.00; 250 for \$2.25; 500 for \$4.00. For 25 cents extra we will print your name and address on the front page, when ordering 100 or more copies at these prices.

Please send us Names of Bee-Keepers who do not now get the American Bee Journal, and we will send them sample copies. Then you can very likely afterward get their subscriptions, for which work we offer valuable premiums in nearly every number of this journal. You can aid much by sending in the names and addresses when writing us on other matters.



CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, Marengo, Ill.

(The Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal office, or to Dr. Miller direct, when he will answer them here. Please do not ask the Doctor to send answers by mail.—EDITOR.)

## What Causes the Brood to Die?

In examining the bees in this county, I find in some places about one-half the sealed brood is dead. No one here seems to know the cause or any remedy for it. Unless it can in some way be checked, it will ruin the bee-industry, I think. It is entirely unlike foul brood. The unhatched dead bees are fully-developed in size and all their parts, but die before hatching, turn a dark color, and dry up in the cell. In view of the fact that most of the bees here have been in-bred for years, and no new blood from any source introduced, I have been inclined to believe it might be caused by in-breeding.

COLORADO.

ANSWER.—Continued in-breeding for years might result in a weakening of constitution, making the bees succumb more readily to any disease, but such a wholesale and sudden weakening as to make half the brood die in the cell would not be likely to occur. It might be a good plan to send a sample of the brood to Dr. Howard or Mr. McEvoy.

## Very Likely Caused by Worms.

What is the matter with my bees? For a long time they have been bringing out dead brood from the hive, in the nymph stage, and also full-grown bees. Indeed, frequently the bees brought out are alive, but when alive they always have a thin membrane attacht to them on various parts of their bodies. I have examined the frames, but see no signs of worms. The colonies are greatly weakened in consequence of the brood dying.

ILLINOIS.

ANSWER.—In spite of your seeing no signs of worms, it is possible that they are the culprits. If you take out a comb and examine it, you may see no silken gallery such as are commonly made by wax-worms, indeed no sign whatever of the presence of worms, unless it be that here and there some fully mature young bees seem to be struggling to get out of the cells, apparently fast there. Pull out these wriggling bees and you will find at the bottom of the cell a lively, slender worm about half an inch long. I think it is different from the usual wax-worm.

## Combs of Pollen—Wood-Bound Zincs.

On examining a 10-frame colony I find in the brood-chamber no eggs or larva; in most of the combs a majority of the cells are filled from one-third to two-thirds full of pollen, except a strip at the top, or a patch in one corner, which contains old cap honey. I find no evidence of young bees, either. On top of this hive is a full-depth extracting-super containing 10 frames of honey. During the basswood flow the bees filled with honey the upper portion of these super-combs, which they drew out from full sheets of foundation; the balance of the combs with brood. Some four weeks since examination disclosed this brood where I supposed there was honey. My hives having no honey-boards on, I then procured some Tinker zincs, wood-bound, and placed them over the brood-chambers, shaking and brushing all bees below that were in the supers. In the meantime all this brood has hatcht and bees are filling the cells thus vacated with honey, but storing none in the brood-chamber.

What is true regarding brood in the super of this colony is true of nearly all my colonies. But since I placed the zincs over them many colonies seem greatly hampered about getting into the supers. The wood-bound zincs are not made right. On one side the frame is elevated above



the zinc, on the other side not; so whichever side I place uppermost, the bees, between many frames, are partially or wholly prevented either from getting out of the brood-chamber or into the super.

1. What should be done with the combs of pollen? I have other colonies in much the same condition—or they were when queenless, and now that they have queens the pollen remains. There is little room left for the queen to deposit eggs, and if honey is stored over the pollen I fear the combs will not hold enough for winter. Can the bees be made to clean out this pollen? and how?

2. Is there any supply manufacturer who makes a wood-bound honey-board with two rows of holes between the slats, like the Tinker zinc, and raises the frame on both sides? If so, who? It is a disappointment and a nuisance to buy supplies and have them practically valueless.

#### NOVICE.

ANSWERS.—1. If I understand the matter rightly, you have a two-story hive, the "full-depth extracting-super" on top having frames the same size as those below. The queen having gone into the upper story, the bees made that the brood-chamber, only they dumped the main portion of the pollen in the lower story. Either story might be used as the brood-chamber, only if you use the lower one there is more pollen than is needed, and if you use the upper one there is perhaps a scarcity of that article. You can even up matters by taking part of the combs of honey from the upper story and putting them in the lower story, where the queen now is, and putting some of the pollen-laden combs from below in the upper story. Possibly there is no more pollen in the hive than the bees will want to use before another honey harvest, and next spring it may be a good thing to put back in the brood-chamber the pollen that you now remove. Indeed, if you put it in the upper story next spring, you will find it gradually disappear from there, altho it may be better for you to put it in the brood-nest. Bees use a very large quantity of pollen for brood-rearing in spring. The use of a queen-excluder will prevent the same thing from happening again to some extent, but there will still be an accumulation of pollen if the colony is queenless, the plain remedy being to keep the colony supplied with a queen.

2. It is hardly likely that any manufacturer keeps in stock queen-excluders with a bee-space on both sides, but any of them would probably make them to order. I cannot understand what kind of an arrangement you have that makes it desirable to have a bee-space on both sides of the excluder. The only thing I can think of is that either there is no space between your upper and lower stories, or that there is a half-space at the top of the lower story and a half-space at the bottom of the upper story. In most cases there is a full bee-space at the upper part of the lower story, and none at the bottom of the upper story. Then when the excluder is put on with the bee-space uppermost, there is a bee-space between the excluder and either story. You can nail little strips on the top of the brood-chamber, so as to make the proper bee-space there.

#### Questions on Sweet Clover in Georgia.

I am thinking of sowing some sweet clover seed for bee-pasture, and want some information along that line. When would be the best time to sow in our latitude, this being about the 33°?

How much seed per acre on common land that has been resting a year or two? and would it be better sown in drills or broadcast? Is it best sown in the fall, or spring? Do you think it will do well in middle Georgia? How tall do you think it will grow here? How much honey do you think it will produce to the acre in our latitude? How much hay to the acre do you think it would make? When would be the best time to cut it?

#### GEORGIA.

ANSWER.—I cannot answer your questions with any degree of positiveness, and shall be glad to be corrected by any Southern bee-keeper of experience with sweet clover. In some parts of the South it has been reported that sweet clover does not flourish, but in most places I think it does, especially in soils where lime is present. Thirty to 60 pounds of seed may be sown to the acre any time from the ripening of the seed this fall to the time when other clovers are sown in spring, success being better assured in the North, and perhaps as well in the South, if the ground is packed hard, as by tramping with stock. In your climate it is likely that there is little or no choice between drill and broadcast sowing. It will grow all the way from four to seven feet high, making from a half more to double as much hay as red clover. Just how much honey an acre of sweet

clover will yield has never been ascertained, and not even a guess has been offered. Please remember now that I don't know anything positively about sweet clover in Georgia, and I trust some good Georgian will set right anything in which I may be wrong.

#### Honey from Colonies that Died.

1. I had a very fine looking queen in a colony that wintered, and a little over half the brood would be workers in the spring, and the remainder were drones in worker-cells; then nearly half would die, some before others, after being capt, and after remaining a while a small hole would come in the capping. But there was no odor from dead brood, nor was it ropy. I killed the queen and introduced another, leaving all their comb except one sheet that was quite full of dead brood, and they have built up to a nice colony, no more disease showing till this fall. A full colony that stored two supers of honey got in the same fix, and as there was but little coming in I preferred it to die rather than have robbing commenced. There was plenty of honey in each hive, so I conclude it was not not pickled brood.

2. Will the combs convey the disease to the next colonies that I give them, as there is considerable honey left in the last one?

#### VIRGINIA.

ANSWER.—While there might no harm come from feeding that honey to other bees, it may be wise to take no risk whatever. If the honey is nice, the safer plan will be to use it on the table, melting it up if that is preferred.

#### How Queens are Superseded.

When bees supersede their queen do they kill her, do they drive her out, or do the young queens kill her? I found an old queen and 50 or 100 bees in the grass four or five rods from any hive; the queen was an old yellow Italian that I got last year. I put them into a hive till morning. It was in the evening, about five o'clock, and they were all gone the next morning. That colony sent out a second swarm with a young queen. She had led out a first swarm six or eight weeks before.

#### IOWA.

ANSWER.—In some cases, at least, it seems that neither the bees nor the young queen kill the old one. Sometimes an old queen will continue to lay for some time after a royal daughter begins to lay, and in such case I've tried putting the old queen in a separate hive, but generally she disappears in a short time, and in at least one case this summer the old queen seemed bent on getting away from the bees and leaving the hive. I don't know, but I have just a little doubt whether the young queen or the workers ever kill the queen that is superseded.

The queen that you found in the grass with a cluster of bees had probably left the hive with a full swarm; the queen for some reason being unable to fly, had crawled some distance from the hive, and a few of the bees had found her, the rest returning to the hive.

#### Preparing a Winter-Case for Bees.

I have no cellar to winter my bees in, and would like to winter more successfully than last winter. I have a number of old 10-frame Langstroth hives which I will discard, and use the 8-frame dovetailed hive instead. I also have a lot of cheap box-lumber. Now, I am thinking of taking the upper stories of the Langstroth hives and make them enough higher with this cheap lumber to take in a dovetailed hive with super on. I will also put a bottom to this outside case, on the inside of which I will nail 1-inch strips for the dovetailed hive to stand on, the same as it stands on the strips on its own bottom-board; then set the hive in the case, pack with a chaff cushion on the frames, then pack the empty space around the hive with chaff and over all place the old Langstroth cover. Of course, providing a place of entrance below. In your opinion, how will such a "trap" work for a winter-case?

#### HOOSIER.

ANSWER.—If the upper story of your old hive is long enough to take in the length of a dovetail hive, the plan may answer very well. You are not likely, however, to have another so severe a winter during an ordinary lifetime, and it might be well to try side by side at least one or two in the old way, and then compare results. It may be well to remark, in passing, that your chances for successful out-door wintering will not be increased by changing from 10 to 8-frame hives.

GEORGE W. YORK, Editor.



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**United States Bee-Keepers' Association.**

Organized to advance the pursuit of Apiculture; to promote the interests of bee-keepers; to protect its members; to prevent the adulteration of honey; and to prosecute the dishonest honey-commission men.

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**GEN'L MANAGER AND TREASURER**—Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.

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**NOTE**—The American Bee Journal adopts the Orthography of the following Rule, recommended by the joint action of the American Philological Association and the Philological Society of England:—Change "d" or "ed" final to "t" when so pronounced, except when the "e" affects a preceding sound.

**Bee-Keepers Injuring the Honey Market.**—A honey-dealer here recently called on several of the large retail grocers in the heart of the city with a sample case of very fine comb honey, expecting of course that he could make a sale of a ton or two, as these particular grocers usually buy in fairly large lots. His comb honey was really fancy, and worth 15 cents a pound if it was worth a cent. But imagine his surprise to learn that some bee-keepers from the country had just been in and sold their honey to these grocers at 12½ cents a pound!

Now, this is only a fair sample of the manner in which some of the honey-producers themselves injure the honey market. It must be that they do not read the bee-papers or see the honey market quotations, else they would not be so foolish as to offer their honey for less than it is worth. Fancy comb honey should bring a good price this year—in fact, honey of all kinds *is* bringing a good price. So there is no excuse for any bee-keeper offering his honey for less than it is worth.

**Advanced Prices.**—Supply manufacturers are marking up their price-lists—a step no doubt made necessary by the advanced prices they have to pay, lumber continuing to rise in price with no certainty where the end will be. Bee-keepers can stand this very well if they have a corresponding advance in the price of honey, and there is no little muttering because the quotations for honey are not higher.

There seems, however, to be a failure to notice that honey *has* advanced in price. A comparison of present

prices with those of a year ago will show that at least in several of the markets there has been an advance of from one to three cents a pound. On the other hand, bee-keepers may with good show of reason complain that all things considered honey is quoted lower than it should be. From all accounts there has been a smaller crop than has been known for many years. This alone should call for a rise in price if prices on all other articles should remain stationary. The general advance on all articles that bee-keepers have to buy, whether in their business or for the support of their families, is sufficient reason for a sharp advance if there was an average crop in the country.

Now put together the short crop of honey and the general advance in prices, and it is not unnatural that a double advance should be considered the right thing.

**Shipping Bees by Freight** in less than carload lots we believe can be secured soon if bee-keepers will interest themselves sufficiently in the subject. The Western Classification Committee will hold its next meeting in Milwaukee, Nov. 7. A petition requesting the rating on bees by freight in less than car lots has been presented to Mr. J. T. Ripley, the chairman of the committee. Now, bee-keepers should follow up this petition by letters urging that it be granted. Address Mr. J. T. Ripley, Chairman Western Classification Committee, Room 604, Great Northern Building, Chicago, Ill.

There is no good reason why bees in hives should not be sent by local freight just the same as live poultry or any other small stock. All that is necessary is to have the bees securely enclosed so that none may escape from the hive or box containing them. If small or large shipments of bees could be made as desired by freight, instead of by expensive express, no doubt many apiaries would be moved from one locality to another to catch a succession of honey-flows.

**Apis Dorsata** was discussed in convention by Australian bee-keepers. H. L. Jones read a paper moderately favoring their introduction. Mr. Pender thought they might be valuable for wax-production. Mr. Bradley said he had lived long years in India, and the man who would bring them into Australia should be prosecuted. They were migratory, as bad as wasps, with stronger colonies. Mr. Abram told of a gentleman who had gone to expense and travel and then decided to let them alone. Mr. Jones said a gentleman in Singapore was trying to domesticate them.

It begins to look as if a good deal of time and valuable space had been taken up in talking and writing about *Apis dorsata*. The Italian bee will likely "hold the fort" for some time yet.

**Saltpetered Rags for Smoker-Fuel.**—Dr. Miller says in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*: "I don't know of any way in which a bee-keeper can get more comfort out of ten cents than to spend it for a pound of saltpeter, put that in two or three quarts of water, wring rags out of it, dry them, and cut them up into pieces of 20 to 50 square inches, to be tied up into little rolls to start his smoker."

**Rival Bee-Paper Editors** is a subject touched on as follows by Editor E. R. Root in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*:

If there ever was a fraternity of feeling among rival editors and publishers, it is among those connected with bee-journals. Once or twice Bro. York and I have occupied the same sleeper *en route* to conventions, and we were together much of the time afterward. This was particularly so in going to and from the Lincoln meeting. Well, this time Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, of the *Bee-Keepers' Review*, and I arranged to meet in Cleveland, there to take a sleeper on to Philadelphia. We left Cleveland on the night train



via the Pennsylvania route; and, didn't we talk bees, things and men! The subject of amateur photography we just reveled in. We not only went to the convention together, but we came back together; and on arriving at Cleveland Mr. Hutchinson took the train with me for Medina, where he spent with us a little over a day in looking over the bees, visiting Vernon Burt, etc. All this may seem sentimental to some; but it means much to bee-keepers as a whole. If the editors of the leading bee-journals were clashing and pulling against each other, what would the result be?

On account of the great dissimilarity in the bee-papers of this country, there is scarcely any rivalry among them. It doubtless would pay every bee-keeper to take all of them, and at least two or three of the best.

There can be no good reason why bee-paper editors who do what is right should not be on friendly terms. We count the majority of them among our warmest friends, and do not hesitate to commend them and their papers whenever we feel it is deserved, and without expecting any reciprocation on their part. As a wise man once said, we expect to travel this way but once, and desire to do all the good we can as we pass along. Life is too short to spend it mainly in berating others, no matter how richly they may deserve it; and there is too much of real value to be published in the bee-papers to allow the space to be wasted in quarrels among those who should be friends.

**Speaking Kind Words.**—Dr. A. B. Mason, in the Bee-Keepers' Review, touches on this subject in these words:

"I really pity the man or woman that has neither the inclination nor the ability to say good things of others while they live, nor waiting till they are dead. It has been a source of real enjoyment to me to read the kind words said of each other by the editors of our bee-journals. I believe there are very few people who do not like to be well spoken of. The truthful words, kindly spoken of each other, encourage to better efforts and better living. . . . May this new era continue to exist, and its influence widen till it covers the whole earth."

As bee-keepers have so much to do with sweetness, they of all people would naturally be expected to use "honeyed" words. Tho the bee is a worker in sweets, still it has a sting—but to be used only in defense. There are bees, too, that some people say have had their desire to sting bred out of them, making them non-stinging. We presume people might be so bred, also—brought up to use kind, pleasant words. It will pay to cultivate this characteristic, and thus help to continue the "new era" to which Dr. Mason refers.

**New Edition of A B C of Bee-Culture.**—We have received a copy of the new (1899) edition of "A B C of Bee-Culture," by A. I. Root, and just revised by Ernest R. Root. It is indeed a fine work, very interesting descriptions of which have been given on pages 603, 619, and on page 635 of this number of the Bee Journal. It is a book that every bee-keeper should own, and read thoroly. The regular post-paid price is \$1.20, but to all our subscribers who pay any arrears that may be due, and also \$1.00 for the Bee Journal for 1900 (next year), we will mail a copy of A B C of Bee-Culture for only 75 cents, provided the order is received before January 1, next. We make this same offer to all who have paid their subscriptions to the end of 1899—send us \$1.75 and we will mail you the book and credit your subscription for 1900. We make the same offers on "Langstroth on the Honey-Bee," revised by Dadant (1899 edition).

**Crimson Clover** is thus written about in a recent bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture at Washington:

The use of crimson clover (*Trifolium incarnatum*) has increased to such an extent that it is now a standard crop in many parts of the Southern and Middle States. It is distinguished by its long head of brilliant scarlet blossoms and by the great depth to which its roots make their way. Wherever the winters are not too severe it thrives and is a

valuable plant for soiling or for hay. It is a winter annual, the seed being sown any time from the middle of July to late fall in the Southern States. It grows thruout the milder weather in winter, and quickly makes a dense cover to the ground in the spring. This can be pastured, cut for hay, or turned under for green manure, or all three, depending upon conditions.

The seed of crimson clover is larger than that of red or mammoth clover, and is almost perfectly oval in shape. The fresh seed is of a bright reddish-yellow color, and has a high polish. As the seed becomes older the color changes to a reddish brown, and eventually the polish is lost, and the seed has a dull, dark reddish-brown color. Such seed should never be purchased, as it is too old to grow well.

In general the seed of crimson clover is less liable to contain many weed seeds than the seed of other clovers. It is harvested before most of the weeds have matured their seed, and being planted in late summer or fall it tends to choke out what weeds may come up with the young plants.

According to Mr. C. H. Lake, of the Maryland Agricultural College, bees produce pink comb when working on the blossoms of crimson clover. Mr. Lake wrote us as follows lately:

I note what is said in a recent number of the American Bee Journal about the pink comb from Maryland. When I again go down to the College I will get a specimen I produced two years ago. It will show for itself. Crimson clover is its origin, and the honey is also crimson, and not straw color, as claimed by experts, so-called.

C. H. LAKE.



MR. CHAS. DADANT, senior partner of Chas. Dadant & Son, called on us Monday, Sept. 25, when on his way home from a six-weeks' stay in Wisconsin, where he goes every fall to escape an attack of the hay-fever in his southern Illinois home. Tho nearly 82 years of age, Mr. Dadant is well and able to enjoy life all right. He reports his firm as having had a good trade in comb foundation this year, which we were glad to hear. We always like to know of our advertisers doing well.

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MR. F. DANZENBAKER seems to deserve a good deal of credit for suggesting the use of springs, for holding the sections in supers. Editor Root, upon being asked who originated them, replies as follows in Gleanings in Bee-Culture:

"Those super-springs, as you found them in the supers, were devised by Mr. Fr. Danzenbaker. He got the principle, I believe, from Mr. M. H. Mendleson, of California, who uses a flat steel spring. It is more expensive, and not as well adapted to the purpose. From some correspondence that has come in of late, it seems others have been using something similar. But Mr. Danzenbaker says he was prior in the specific form of springs used in his supers."

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ONLY A HYPHEN.—Stenog, the one who has control of the department of "Pickings" for Gleanings in Bee-Culture, in a recent issue of that paper is found "picking" on us in this fashion:

"Mr. York prints the name of this journal with a hyphen in Bee-Culture. Why not use one in American Bee Journal? Proper names should be printed as the owner writes them. Surely the hyphen should be omitted in the case cited."

Whereupon we referred to the Standard Dictionary, and found that the word "bee-culture" very properly appears with a hyphen. Strange that Stenog didn't know how to write the name of the paper to which he usually contributes so entertainingly. The Standard Dictionary is a pretty safe guide to follow, but we wouldn't think of objecting to so small a matter as an extra hyphen if any one wishes to put it between the last two words of the name of our paper.

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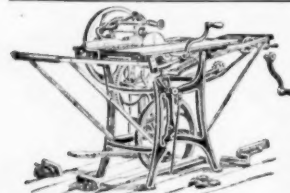
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In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.—Prov. 11-14.

### Are Bees Out All Night?

Query 106.—Do bees sometimes stay out in the field all night? This question was prompted by seeing a bee heavily loaded with pollen Sept. 21, enter the hive about 4 o'clock a.m.—UTAH.

J. A. Stone—Yes.

Mrs. L. Harrison—They do.

S. T. Pettit—Certainly they do.

Adrian Getaz—Yes, they do often.

E. France—Yes, very many of them.

Dr. J. P. H. Brown—Frequently they do.

P. H. Elwood—Yes, very often, in mild weather.

Eugene Secor—Occasionally, I think, but not often.

Mrs. J. M. Null—Undoubtedly, but not voluntarily so.

Chas. Dadant & Son—Yes, they often do, in warm weather.

O. O. Poppleton—Yes, especially during a heavy honey-flow.

J. A. Green—Not as a rule, and not intentionally in any case.

W. G. Larrabee—I have no positive proof of it, but I think they do.

J. M. Hambaugh—During warm weather and a good honey-flow they will.

R. L. Taylor—During the time of bass-wood bloom they do to some extent.

Emerson T. Abbott—According to my observation bees frequently remain out over night.

J. E. Pond—I never knew or heard of such an instance, and very much doubt if such a thing were possible.

A. F. Brown—No. It frequently does not take a bee over 6 to 8 minutes to fly from the hive and return with a load.

Dr. A. B. Mason—Yes, I have often noticed them on flowers in the morning before any bees were leaving their hives.

Dr. C. C. Miller—I have read that they sometimes stay out over night, especially when working on linden moonlight nights.

C. H. Dibbern—Yes, very often, as they often get belated or are caught by showers, and in warm weather such bees will return to their hives early the next morning.

Prof. A. J. Cook—Yes. I have taken bees on flowers, too chilled by evening air to rejoin the hive. I think they found home, or would have done so the next day.

G. M. Doolittle—Did you have a lantern, or what? "Tis "pitch dark" here on Sept. 21 at 4 o'clock a.m., and you could not see a bee, say nothing about its loads of pollen.

D. W. Heise—Yes, I have every reason to believe they often do, when caught by showers or storms. I could give instances which led me to this belief, but think it not necessary.

Mrs. A. J. Barber—Yes. I have shut up colonies after sunset, and even after dark, to be moved the next day, and would find bees on the screens at the entrances early the next morning.

R. C. Aikin—I guess not, unless as when trapped in a honey-house or elsewhere. If out it would not likely come loaded in the morning unless it got loaded before belated. They never stay out willingly.

G. W. Demaree—It is not the habit of the honey-bee to lodge in the fields at night. There are certain plants which the bees visit for the nectar they secrete, and which plants contain intoxicating qualities that stupefy and overcome the bees, and cause

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475 Pages.

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MEDINA, OHIO.

them to lose action and stay out over night. Some of them recover by morning, and some perish.

\* E. Whitcomb—Quite frequently when gathering honey or pollen from quite a distance, or when overtaken by a sudden storm, they seek the friendly protection on the under side of some leaf, and return home as soon as opportunity offers.

C. Davenport—I don't know. I have often seen bees come in from the field very early, but perhaps they wake up early, or were unable to sleep at all, and so went out earlier than the others. I have never seen any sleeping out in the fields at night, but it may be some prefer to lie out in the fresh air.

Rev. M. Mahin—It is very common for bees to stay out all night. After a rainy night I have often seen bedraggled and forlorn looking bees come in in the morning. If you shut a hive up in the evening, at a time when nectar is plenty, you will be surprised at the number of bees that will be clamoring for entrance in the early morning.



### Best Honey Crop in Three Years.

The honey crop in this county this year has been the best for three years. My crop of 3,600 pounds is all sold, mostly extracted, at 10 to 20 cents. I could have sold a ton more if I had had it. J. M. DOUDNA.

Douglas Co., Minn., Sept. 20.

### The Bee-Smoker Man's Report

I am making a cellar to winter my bees. The season has been good for rearing bees, but no one seems to think it has been up to the average for honey. My 16 little 11th-of May colonies have increased to 93, with honey enough to winter them, as far as honey will do that. Of course, my honey crop is not much, but after I decided not to increase them more, an effort was made to get a little section honey for family use, and I have 318 pounds of nice fall crop.

Last winter reduced the bees in this region more than one-half, and this winter will start in with less than 1/4 that last winter did. T. F. BINGHAM.

Clare Co., Mich., Sept. 22.

### Very Poor Year for Bees.

I should have been pleased to have been with you at the late bee-convention, but it was too far for me to attend. It has been a very poor year here for bees and honey. I have lost over one-half of my bees since spring came—some 40 odd colonies—and some of the balance are very weak. I don't know what the matter is with them. They fly out and drop down, and never rise again, but crawl around on the ground and die. Bees in this place are nearly all dead. Mine have plenty of honey.

JOSHUA TERRY.  
Salt Lake Co., Utah, Sept. 17.

### Honey an Entire Failure.

Honey is an entire failure in this vicinity this season. I'm afraid lots of the bees will starve the coming winter, but I was lucky enough to get enough winter stores for mine.

JOHN H. RUFF.  
Washington Co., Kans., Sept. 15.

### Probably Prairie Clover.

Will you kindly inform me what the name of the enclosed plant is. I enclose the entire top of one plant. It grows about two feet high, and bees are working on it in large numbers. It grows on land which

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consisting of 235 acres, as good a farm as there is in Lake Co., Ill., located only 26 miles north of the Chicago court-house, on the old Chicago and Milwaukee stage-road (or Milwaukee Ave. now), and 1 1/2 miles from Prairie View on the Wisconsin Central railroad. The beautiful Des-plaines river runs thru the pasture, besides the timber land. Also 19 acres of good timber one mile northeast of Half Day, making 254 acres in all.

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was cleared years ago and is partially grown up to brush again.

After a cold, wet, backward spring, white clover bloomed abundantly and bees did fairly well on it. It is now past, and the first crop of Alsike is also cut. Basswood seemed to yield some this year, but my bees were out of range of it, so they did not get the benefit. Our only hope now is in the golden rods, which are just now beginning to

"brighten, as with touch of gold,  
The summer's waning splendor,  
While every blossom seems to hold  
A message sweet and tender,"

to the apiarist to be prepared to gather the harvest of rich, golden honey, which we hope they will yield "in the sweet bye and bye."

JOHN ATKINSON.

Crow Wing Co., Minn., Aug. 4.

[The plant is probably prairie clover—*Kuhnistera purpurea* or *Petalostemon purpurea* of Gray's Botany. The absence of leaves makes its certain identification impossible. Yet, with little doubt it is the above. It extends from Manitoba to Texas, and west to the Rocky Mountains, but is not reported west of this range, so far as I can learn. I have never heard of its being a bee-plant before, but I should expect it to yield nectar, from its relatives.—A. J. COOK.]

### Almost No Honey.

This is the first year that I got almost no honey. There was altogether too much rain, and always at the time of a honey-flow.

I send you a willowweed plant. If you are careful you can unwind the plant without breaking the connections. The plant is 12 feet 9 inches long. **HERMAN ABLERS,** Clatsop Co., Oreg., Sept. 17.

[The plant is received, and it is indeed a long sample. It unwound all right. Thank you.—EDITOR.]

### Large vs. Small Hives.

There is one point in the article by Mr. Getaz on the above subject, on page 561, that he ignores. He allows prominence to the idea that a person who uses an 8-frame hive never allows the queen to occupy any more room than is provided by the eight frames, and in ignoring this expansion feature it looks as if he were trying to make a case for the large hive.

When the bees in an 8-frame hive come out strong in the spring, as they surely will if wintered right, it will transpire that in a short time the bees become so crowded for room that a super with brood-combs is added, the bees and the queen immediately taking possession, and a good queen, such as all bee-keepers should have, will soon fill

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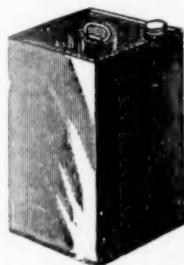
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the 16 frames, at least when a 10-frame hive is used. I have had queens that would more than fill 16 frames, and as I understand the respective sizes of the large Dadant and the 10 frame Langstroth hive, the difference in comb surface is a little in favor of the latter, and as much brood can be cared for.

But to return to the 8-frame hive. What it lacks in the brood-frames can be more than made up in the addition of a third, or until there is an unlimited room the queen can occupy. Therefore, it is unnecessary to winter such enormous colonies in enormous hives.

Of course, Mr. Getaz's argument is all right as between the 80 colonies in the 12-comb hive and the 120 in the 8-comb, provided we hold them within those limits; but if we can make the 120 equal in the rearing of bees and the production of honey to 120 in the 12-frame hives, we gain in several points, ease in handling the hives, interchangeable frames, all frames can be used in an ordinary extractor, less stores in wintering, expansion or contraction practiced at will.

Yes, Mr. Getaz, give us a chance to expand, and we will make as good a showing as the large hive. J. H. MARTIN.

Los Angeles Co., Calif.

### Poor Season for Bees.

The past was a poor season for bees in this part of Nebraska; indeed, the worst season for bees since I have kept them, and that is since 1891, when I started with one colony. Even that well remembered dry season of 1894 put this 1899 season in the shade all around, as to surplus honey. This year I got none, and the bees almost have nothing in their hives, and will have to be fed during winter and spring until new honey is coming in from the spring flowers of 1900, which I hope will give a big yield of surplus honey to make up what was lost in 1899, or what I did not get.

But all the same, the old American Bee Journal will have to visit me every week, if I live, and health permits. H. HANSEN, Sherman Co., Nebr., Sept. 20.

### Very Sweet Honey.

While visiting in Michigan last August, I was entertained at Mr. Hobart Paines' of Shiawassee County. For tea we had some very white comb honey. Mr. Paine produced it himself, and was sure it was from either white or Alsike clover. I am sure I never tasted of honey from flowers before that was so sweet. I should have said at once that it was produced from feeding

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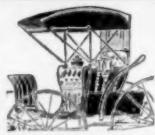
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**The Novelty Knife** is indeed a novelty. The novelty lies in the handle. It is made beautifully of indestructible celluloid, which is as transparent as glass. Underneath the celluloid, on one side of the handle is placed the name and residence of the Subscriber.

**The Material** entering into this celebrated knife is of the very best quality; the blades are hand-forged out of the very finest English razor-steel, and we warrant every blade. The bolsters are made of German silver, and will never rust or corrode. The rivets are hardened German silver wire; the linings are plate brass; the back springs of Sheffield spring-steel, and the finish of the handle as described above. It will last a lifetime, with proper usage.

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granulated sugar. This was what interested me. I presume that the bees gathered it very rapidly, so that the transformation into glucose or levulose was not complete, or as complete as usual. Thus there was more of the sweeter cane-sugar than in the usual honey. This was also the reason why the peculiar honey-flavor was so little to be detected. A large tableful of people all noticed the sweet character of the honey, and the very delicate flavor. I have tasted honey made from cane-syrup which was not as sweet, and was more characterized by the usual honey-flavor than was this.

The past week I have been away up to Julian, 38 miles from a railroad. This is in San Diego County, and is in a very fine honey region. The honey crop has been small, but good, and the bees are now in fine condition. **A. J. COOK.**  
Los Angeles Co., Calif., Sept. 20.

## Is Christianity Practical in Worldly Affairs?

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, author of "In His Steps," one of the most widely read books in the English language, has written an article which establishes the practicality of the teachings of Christianity as set forth in his book, which have been put to the test in innumerable religious bodies the world over. Mr. Sheldon declined to write for publication anything relating to his individual work in applying his teachings of "In His Steps," until others were convinced that those teachings were applicable to every-day affairs. He has now taken up his pen and shown that the question, "What Would Christ Do?" may be answered by every Christian, and the precept followed. "Is Christianity Practical in Worldly Affairs?" will be published in the November Ladies' Home Journal.

## Convention Notice.

**Illinois.**—The annual meeting of the Northern Illinois Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at the Court House in Rockford, Ill., on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 17 and 18, 1899. All are cordially invited. **B. KENNEDY, Sec.**  
New Milford, Ill.

**A New Feed Grinder.**—The Electric Wheel Company, whose several lines of goods are familiar to our readers, are out this season with a new feed grinder. Their card appears on another page. Any who intend buying a feed grinder will please write The Electric Wheel Company, Quincy, Ill., for special catalog, and mention the American Bee Journal.

**A Famous Dehorning Knife.**—The advertisement of A. C. Brosius, of Cochranville, Pa., makes its first appearance in this issue of our paper for the new season's business. Our readers will remember this gentleman as being the manufacturer of the now famous Dehorning Knife which has been of such great value to stockmen everywhere. This is the dehorner which took highest award at the World's Fair. It differs from all other devices of its class in the fact that it cuts evenly from four sides at once. This prevents all bruising and crushing of the horn and constitutes the most humane way of removing the horns. Then, too, it is a quick and safe way for both man and animal. Write Mr. Brosius for circulars, prices, etc., saying you saw his advertisement in the American Bee Journal.



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**Bees and Honey**, or Management of an Apiary for Pleasure and Profit, by Thomas G. Newman.—It is nicely illustrated, contains 160 pages, beautifully printed in the highest style of the art, and bound in cloth, gold-lettered. Price, in cloth, 75 cents; in paper, 50 cents.

**Langstroth on the Honey-Bee**, revised by Dadant.—This classic in bee-culture has been entirely re-written, and is fully illustrated. It treats of everything relating to bees and bee-keeping. No apiarian library is complete without this standard work by Rev. L. L. Langstroth—the Father of American Bee-Culture. It has 520 pages, bound in cloth. Price, \$1.25.

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**A B C of Bee-Culture**, by A. I. Root.—A cyclopaedia of 400 pages, describing everything pertaining to the care of the honey-bees. Contains 300 engravings. It was written especially for beginners. Bound in cloth. Price, \$1.20.

**Advanced Bee-Culture**, Its Methods and Management, by W. Z. Hutchinson.—The author of this work is a practical and entertaining writer. You should read his book; 90 pages, bound in paper, and illustrated. Price, 50 cents.

**Rational Bee-Keeping**, by Dr. John Dzierzon.—This is a translation of his latest German book on bee-culture. It has 350 pages, bound in paper covers, \$1.00.

**Bienen-Kultur**, by Thos. G. Newman.—This is a German translation of the principal portion of the book called "Bees and Honey." 100-page pamphlet. Price, 25 cents.

**Bienenzucht und Honiggewinnung**, nach der neuesten methode (German) by J. F. Eggers.—This book gives the latest and most approved methods of bee-keeping in an easy, comprehensive style, with illustrations to suit the subject. 50 pages, board cover. Price, 50 cents.

**Bee-Keeping for Beginners**, by Dr. J. P. H. Brown, of Georgia.—A practical and condensed treatise on the honey-bee, giving the best modes of management in order to secure the most profit. 110 pages, bound in paper. Price, 50 cts.

**Bee-Keeping for Profit**, by Dr. G. L. Tinker.—Revised and enlarged. It details the author's "new system, or how to get the largest yields of comb or extracted honey." 80 pages, illustrated. Price, 25 cents.

**Apiary Register**, by Thomas G. Newman.—Devotes two pages to a colony. Leather binding. Price, for 50 colonies, \$1.00; for 100 colonies, \$1.25.

**Dr. Howard's Book on Foul Brood**.—Gives the McEvoy Treatment and reviews the experiments of others. Price, 25 cents.

**Winter Problem in Bee-Keeping**, by G. R. Pierce.—Result of 25 years' experience. 30 cts.

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**Capons and Caponizing**, by Dr. Sawyer, Fanny Field, and others.—Illustrated. All about caponizing fowls, and thus how to make the most money in poultry-raising. 64 pages. Price, 20c.

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**York's Honey Almanac** is a neat little 24-page pamphlet especially gotten up with a view to creating a demand for honey. A very effective helper in working up a home market for honey. Prices: A sample for a stamp; 25 copies for 40c; 50 for 60c; 100 for \$1.00; 250 for \$2.25; 500 for \$4.00. For 25 cents extra we will print your name and address on the front page, when ordering 100 or more copies at these prices.

# HONEY AND BEESWAX

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—Fancy white comb honey brings 15c; No. 1, 13@14c; ambers, 10@12c; dark, 9@10c. Extracted, white, in cans, 7½@8c; in barrels, 7@7½c; amber, 6½@7c. Beeswax, 26c.

The receipts are increasing and sales are becoming more frequent. Shipments are coming to hand in good order, and when properly prepared will do so until we get zero weather, after which it is liable to crack, and break away from the frames.

R. A. BURNETT & CO.

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 14.—The supply of comb honey is very light. Scarcely any extracted on the market. We quote fancy 1-pound comb 14@15c; No. 1, 13@14c; No. 1 amber, 12@13c. Extracted, white, 7c; amber, 5@6c; dark, 4@5c. Beeswax, 22@25c.

C. C. CLEMONS & CO.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Fancy white, 15c; No. 1, white, 13@14c; fancy amber, 11@12c; No. 1, amber, 10@11c; buckwheat, 9@10c. Beeswax dull at 25@26c.

Demand good for all kinds of comb honey, and ready sale. Extracted in good demand also, excepting buckwheat, at unchanged prices.

HILDRETH & SEGELKEN.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 25.—White comb, 11½@12½c; amber, 8@10c. Extracted, white, 7½@7¾c; light amber, 6½@7c. Beeswax, 26@27c.

The market remains unfavorable to the buying interest, and is likely to so continue thruout the season, with supplies of very moderate volume, not only here, but also in the interior.

CLEVELAND, Aug. 18.—New honey scarce and in good demand. Fancy white, 15c; No. 1 white, 13@14c; fancy amber, 12c; No. 1 amber, 10@11c.

A. B. WILLIAMS & CO.

ALBANY, Sept. 26.—We quote: Fancy white comb, 15c; No. 1 white, 13@14c; mixt, 11@13c; buckwheat, 10@11c. Extracted, white, 8@9c; mixt, 6½@7c; dark, 6. Beeswax, 26@28c.

MACDOUGAL & CO.

Successors to Chas. McCulloch & Co.

BOSTON, Sept. 21.—Fancy white comb, 1-pound sections, 16c; A No. 1, 14@15c; No. 1, 13@13½c; No. 2, 11@12c. White amber extracted, 8@8½c. Beeswax, 27c.

New comb honey is coming in very slowly, showing a general shortage all over the country.

BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

BUFFALO, Sept. 29.—There are virtually no arrivals of strictly fancy white comb honey. The very little arriving is poor, and the best of it brings 14 cents. We believe extra fancy would bring 15@16 cents, and any grade will sell well here. If receipts do not increase we may reasonably look for possibly higher prices. There is a very strong demand, quickly taking the few arrivals.

BATTERSON & CO.

OMAHA, Aug. 16.—Still very little doing and receipts so light that a market price has really not been established. Little lots of choice new comb are still going at 14@15c, but a good many dealers will not touch it at these prices, and in order to place larger quantities at this time a considerably lower figure would have to be made. In the course of another month, when the weather is cooler and the taste for fruits more fully satisfied, the demand for honey will be more general and a more reliable market can be quoted. Extracted is slow sale at 7@7½c.

PEYCKE BROS.

DETROIT, Sept. 11.—Honey-producers accustomed to selling in Detroit have hard work to satisfy local trade. Very little honey in market. White comb, 14@15c; dark, 12@13c. White extracted, 7½@8c. No dark wanted. Beeswax, 23@25c.

M. H. HUNT & SON.

WANTED.—Comb and extracted honey; state price, kind, and quantity.

R. A. BURNETT & CO.,

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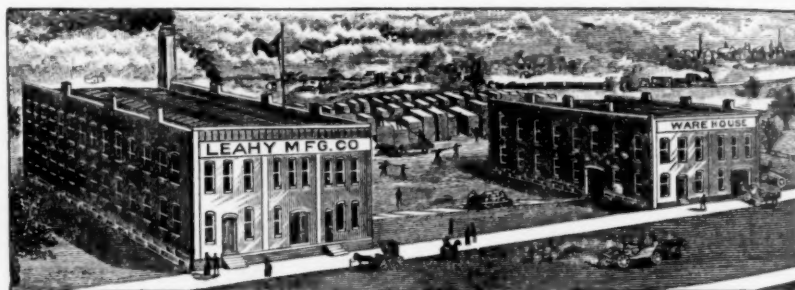
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